I read the book *The Child of the Owl.* It is about a girl named Casey whose mother has died and her father, Barney, is always trying to win it big. He is always saying when the horse comes in, it’s the penthouse suite. After finally winning, he is beat up and put in the hospital. Casey is not allowed to see him while he is there because she is too young, so she has your father’s friend distract the nurse so she can visit with her father.

Since her father is hospitalized, he decides to send Casey to the wealthy side of town to live with her uncle. Her uncle has very strict and mostly pointless rules. Casey is forced to act a certain way and dress a certain way. Living with her uncle only lasts for so long because of Casey’s uncle always calling Barney a horrible father and always saying that the apple does not fall from the tree. Casey does not like her uncle and decides that she does not want to follow her uncle’s rules. Her uncle decides that Casey living with him is not working out, and sends her off to live with her grandmother Paw-Paw in Chinatown.

Casey feels lost in Chinatown. She’s not prepared for Chinese school, the noisy crowds, missing her father. But Paw-Paw tells her about the mother Casey never knew, and about her family's owl charm and her true Chinese name. And Casey at last begins to understand that this -- Paw-Paw's Chinatown home, her parents' home -- is her home, too.

I somewhat liked the book *The Child of the Owl*. I think it was relatively easy to relate to this book. Casey is lost in a new world she is very unfamiliar with. I hope that no one has to feel like that when they have to go to a new school because I could tell while reading the book *The Child of the Owl* that Casey was very lost and unhappy. I really liked the character of Casey in this book. I thought the character was viewed through an interesting perspective. Casey is a Chinese American teenager whose father has taught her to only be "American." When she is separated from her father, she goes to live with her grandmother in Chinatown. Casey goes on a journey to find her Chinese past. This book is a wonderful story about growing up and finding roots in your own history.

I would recommend this book to anyone that would like to know what moving to a new place and having to practically start all over and meet new people. This book is full of important life lessons, and can definitely teach children that leaving the new kids out isn’t very nice. It can also teach you that starting over may be hard but it isn’t always hard but can always get better.